



Bluffton Police Department

July 14, 2015

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Bluffton Police Department Hosts Its Second Annual "National Night Out" August 4th

Bluffton Police Department's officers and Bluffton Fire District's firefighters are proud to host the second annual National Night Out, Tuesday, August 4th from 6 p.m. – 9 p.m. This free event will be held at Bluffton's Law Enforcement Center (101 Progressive Street/Buckwalter Place/across the field from Publix). Officers and firefighters are hosting this community event so Bluffton residents, business owners and guests can get to know each other better as they celebrate the end of summer and promote public safety.

Bluffton will join more than 16,500 communities worldwide on August 4th to raise public-safety awareness, develop closer relationships with their local public safety officials, enhance community pride and strengthen police partnerships with residents and businesses. This is the 32nd year that the National Association of Town Watch (NATW) has been coordinating this nationwide effort.

"The best way to serve and protect our town is through our relationships with each other, the neighborhoods and local organizations; the best crime prevention is community partnerships." Chief Joey Reynolds said. "This event is a perfect venue to start the new school year, meet our neighbors and give officers a chance to share safety information about guns, child seats, bicycle safety and more. The more our community does pro-actively, the less we react to critical incidents."

Free food and beverages will be available. Members of LowCountry Community Church will be grilling hot dogs and hamburgers and local vendors will also be donating other items. Multiple public safety agencies are attending with their various vehicles and safety exhibits. New this

year, several charitable organizations and local businesses will also be attending and sharing health and public safety information and resources with the community.

Several exhibits and activities will be available, including:

- Scheduled Landing of LIFENET Air Ambulance
- Live TASER Demonstration
- School Resource Officer Meet and Greet
- Law Enforcement Patrol and Specialty Vehicles
- Fire and Rescue Vehicles and Equipment
- Gun Safety Exhibit and Safety Locks
- Vehicle Extrication Demonstration
- Child Safety Seat Installations and Inspections

Another new component to this year's National Night Out is a school supply drive. Bluffton Police Department, together with LowCountry Community Church, is hosting a school supply drive, benefiting Bluffton-area teachers. They are collecting any and all classroom supplies up until National Night Out on August 4th, where their goal is to 'Fill the Fire Tank' with all of the donated items. The school supplies will then be presented to the teachers at a luncheon hosted by LowCountry Community Church.

"As summer winds down, this is a great way to get together with your neighbors, police officers and firefighters. The natural outcome of this event is we become better partners in safety with people and neighborhoods. That's a benefit you can't put a price tag on," Reynolds said.